

IRS TAX TIP 2001-39 TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE SERVICE

WASHINGTON -- Free tax help from the IRS is just a phone call away. The IRS provides various services through its toll-free telephone numbers. You can order forms, listen to prerecorded tax information, check on the status of your refund, ask questions about your tax return or inquire about a letter or notice you may have received. Many of these services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Copies of forms, publications and other helpful information are also available around-the-clock at the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.

You can call 1-800-829-1040 to get answers to your federal tax questions 24 hours a day.

Tax forms and instructions for current and prior years are available by calling 1-800-829-3676. You can also order free publications on a wide variety of tax topics.

You can listen to recorded messages covering more than 100 tax topics, by calling the IRS TeleTax number, 1-800-829-4477. Topics include items such as: "Who must file?," "Highlights of Tax Changes," "Education credits," "Individual Retirement Accounts," "Earned Income Tax Credit," "Should I itemize?," "What to do if you can't pay your tax," and many more.

You can also check the status of your 2000 income tax refund using the TeleTax number. In order to obtain information regarding a refund you will need to provide your Social Security number (the first one listed on the return if you filed a joint return), the filing status you used on the return and the dollar amount of the expected refund. Automated refund information is generally available four to five weeks after you have filed your tax return.

Hearing impaired individuals with access to TTY/TDD equipment may call 1-800-829-4059 to ask questions or order forms or publications.

For more information about services provided by the IRS get Publication 910, "Guide to Free Tax Services." Call the forms number listed above or download a copy from the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov. The IRS Web site also provides a wealth of useful information for both individual and business taxpayers. It's worth a visit.